



REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

See amendment set forth in the Appeal Brief submitted concurrently herewith. Claims 23-24 have been cancelled without prejudice, claim 25 placed into independent form, and claim 28 has been amended to depend on new independent claim 25 in order to clarify the issues on appeal.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 3/10/2004

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